

PATENT Attorney Docket No. HOOV 120

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:
Michael D. Hooven
Serial No.: 10/015,476
Filed: December 13, 2001
Examiner:
Art Unit: 3739
For: SUB-XYPHOID METHOD FOR ABLATING CARDIAC TISSUE

) I hereby certify that this correspondence
) is being deposited with the United States
) Postal Service as first class mail in an
) envelope addressed to:
) Commissioner for Patents
) Washington, D.C. 20231 on:
) on March 18, 2002
) Christine A. Barglik
) Christine A. Barglik
) Date: March 18, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified patent application prior to substantive examination.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph 1 with the following paragraph:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application is a division of application Serial No. 10/038,506, filed November 9, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 10/032,378, filed October 26, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/844,225,

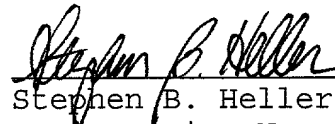
Vertical stamp: RECEIVED

filed April 27, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/747,609, filed December 22, 2000, which claims the benefit of provisional application Serial No. 60/200,072, filed April 27, 2000.--

REMARKS

This is a Preliminary Amendment to the above-identified application. By this Amendment, serial numbers have been identified for related applications.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen B. Heller
Registration No. 30,181

COOK, ALEX, McFARRON, MANZO,
CUMMINGS & MEHLER, LTD.
200 West Adams Street - Suite 2850
Chicago, IL 60606
(312) 236-8500

COOK, ALEX, McFARRON, MANZO,
CUMMINGS & MEHLER, LTD.
200 West Adams Street - Suite 2850
Chicago, IL 60606
(312) 236-8500

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application is a division of application Serial No. 10/038,506, filed November 9, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 10/032,378, filed October 26, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/844,225, filed April 27, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/747,609, filed December 22, 2000, which claims the benefit of provisional application Serial No. 60/200,072, filed April 27, 2000.--